

Erika Summers
5119-306 Cooper Ridge Dr.
Durham, NC 27707

January 14, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Microsoft Case

Dear Ms. Hesse:

The proposed settlement agreement in the United States v. Microsoft case offers a workable compromise for Microsoft, software designers, computer manufacturers and consumers. Having recently completed college and now working in the private sector, I know the importance of having a good integrated software system. I can also understand the need for some flexibility in configuring other products with the Windows system.

Microsoft's products and services are user friendly and have been valuable to consumers with little software and computer experience. The proposed consent decree provides the proper balance between punishing Microsoft and providing remedies for its competitors, computer manufacturers and consumers. Competitors and manufacturers will have the option of dismantling or removing some Windows features. Microsoft has agreed that it will not retaliate against computer makers that provide software that competes with the Windows operating system.

Ensuring a competitive environment is an important part of the United States economy. This agreement will allow competition while at the same time encouraging innovation at a time when we need to get our economy moving.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Erika Summers